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# The National Child Benefit and Social Assistance

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Ontario

# National Child Benefit

## What is it?

The National Child Benefit (NCB) is a new initiative, designed by federal, provincial and territorial governments to improve benefits for low-income families with children.

### **There are two parts to the National Child Benefit (NCB):**

- i) the creation of the Canada Child Tax Benefit (CCTB) that combines your Child Tax Benefit (CTB) with a new national supplement; and,
- ii) an Ontario strategy to invest dollars in benefits for low-income families with children.

## When?

The National Child Benefit will be introduced across Canada in July 1998.

## How does it affect me?

There should be *no change* in the *overall* income you receive as a result of the NCB. The increase you see on your CCTB will be treated as income and deducted from your social assistance payment. You will continue to get and keep the Child Tax Benefit.

**What happens if I have a new baby or my child returns to my home?**

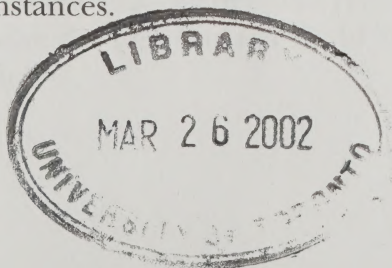
You should report these changes to Revenue Canada.

**Will my entire Canada Child Tax Benefit amount be deducted from my social assistance payment?**

Only the increased amount, called the National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS), will be deducted from your social assistance payment. Revenue Canada will identify the NCBS amount on their notice to you in July 1998.

**If my NCBS amount is deducted from my social assistance payment, won't I get less money?**

No. When you add the amounts received from the Canada Child Tax Benefit and from social assistance, you should see no change in your *overall* income unless you have reported other changes in your circumstances.



**If you currently receive Family Benefits Allowance or Ontario Disability Support Program** you'll see the NCB change on your July 1998 payment.

**If you currently receive Ontario Works,** you'll see the NCB change on your August 1998 payment.

**If you are working and have been receiving the Working Income Supplement (WIS),** you may not see a difference in your total federal government benefits. That's because WIS has been replaced by the National Child Benefit Supplement (NCBS) and is rolled into the new CCTB beginning July 1998.

## **What do I need to do?**

It is a condition of eligibility that social assistance clients seek out all available sources of income; including the new CCTB. Therefore:

- **if you are already receiving CTB,** Revenue Canada will give you a notice in July 1998 that explains your CCTB. Please keep this notice.
- **if you are not receiving CTB,** you should file a 1997 income tax return to receive the new Canada Child Tax Benefit.



## Frequently asked questions

**I am receiving the Child Tax Benefit now. Do I have to file another tax return to receive the new Canada Child Tax Benefit?**

No.

**How much more money will I see on my CCTB?**

The Canada Child Tax Benefit will provide a *maximum annual* amount of:

- \$1,625 for the first child (increase of \$605);
- \$1,425 for the second child (increase of \$405);
- \$1,425 for each additional child (increase of \$330).

These amounts apply to all families with net family income *up to \$20,921*. The amount decreases as net family income rises. Families with income *above \$25,921* will receive the same amount as they did under the CTB (before July 1998).

# How do I get more information?

For more information, talk to your local office OR call one of the toll-free information lines listed below:

**Social Assistance Changes**  
**1-888-789-4199**

**Revenue Canada**  
**1-800-387-1193**



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